

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for service gap analysis, the method comprising:

at a computer processor, receiving information describing a service encounter describing at least one of the service encounter being performed, missed, missing, attempted, and made up;

at [[a]] the computer processor, receiving a date range from a user;

at the computer processor, identifying at least one service plan that is valid within the date range based on input from the user;

at the computer processor, determining the expected number of services within the date range by performing a calculation based on information included in the at least one service plan;

at the computer processor, identifying at least one encounter associated with the service plan occurring within the date range by accessing a storage medium readable by the computer processor;

at the computer processor, comparing the expected number of services with the number of identified encounters for the service plan; [[and]]

at the computer processor, generating information indicating required services, missed services, missing services, and services met, attempted and made-up; and

at the computer processor, generating a result for the at least one identified service plan, the result indicating the shortfall and surplus of encounters for the at least one identified service plan.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the service plan is an individual education plan used in complying with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

at the computer processor, comparing the expected number of services for all identified service plans with the number of identified encounters for all identified service plans.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein at the computer processor, a result is produced for identified service plans, the result includes a number indicating the shortfall or surplus of encounters for all identified service plans.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the date range is divided into at least one time period.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

at a computer processor, for each time period and each service plan, comparing the expected number of services within the time period with the number of identified encounters for the service plan within the time period.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein at the computer processor, a result is produced for each time period and each service plan, the result including a number indicating the shortfall or surplus of encounters for the service plan within the time period.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

at the computer processor, for each time period, comparing the expected number of services for all identified service plans with the number of identified encounters for all identified service plans.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein at the computer processor, a result is produced for all identified service plans for each time period, the

result including a number indicating the shortfall or surplus of encounters for all identified service plans within the time period.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one identified encounter for a service plan includes each encounter that occurred after the service plan terminated.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each of the at least one identified encounter is associated with a service that was provided or attempted.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for entering encounter information into a storage system, the method comprising:

at a computer processor, receiving information describing a service encounter actually performed, the received information including an encounter type and the duration of the encounter;

storing information describing the service encounter in an electronic storage medium readable by the computer processor, the stored information including the encounter type and the duration of the encounter; and

at the computer processor, comparing an expected number of services with the service encounter actually performed; [[and]]

at the computer processor, generating information indicating required services, missed services, missing services, and services met, attempted and made-up[[,]]; and

at the computer processor, generating a result for the comparison, the result indicating the shortfall and surplus of encounters,

wherein the stored information is associated with a service plan, an individual receiving the service, and a service provider.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein the encounter type specifies one selected from a group consisting of services provided, attempted services, and missed services.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A system for assisting a management entity with compliance with a management scheme, the management scheme including a plurality of requirements, the system comprising:

means for receiving a date range from a user;

means for identifying one or more service plans that are valid within the date range, based on input from the user;

means for electronically determining the expected number of services within the date range by performing a calculation based on information included in the at least one service plan;

means for electronically identifying at least one encounter associated with the service plan occurring within the date range by accessing a storage medium readable by a computer; and

means for comparing the expected number of services with the number of identified encounters for the service plan; [[and]]

means for generating information indicating required services, missed services, missing services, and services met, attempted and made-up; and

means for generating a result for the at least one identified service plan, the result indicating the shortfall and surplus of encounters for the at least one identified service plan.

20. (Currently Amended) A system for assisting a management entity with compliance with a service plan, the management scheme including a plurality of requirements, the system comprising:

a processor;

a user interface functioning via the processor; and

a repository accessible by the processor;

wherein a date range is received via the user interface and stored in the repository;

wherein at least one service plan that is valid within the date range is identified via the processor;

wherein the expected number of services within the date range ~~time period~~ is determined via the processor; and

wherein, one or more encounters associated with the service plan occurring within the date range is identified via the processor

wherein the expected number of services are compared with the number of identified encounters for the service plan; and

wherein information indicating required services, missed services, missing services, and services met, attempted and made-up are generated; and

wherein a result is generated for the at least one identified service plan, the result indicating the shortfall and surplus of encounters for the at least one identified service plan.

21. (Original) The system of Claim 20, wherein the processor is housed on a terminal.

22. (Original) The system of Claim 21, wherein the terminal is selected from a group consisting of a personal computer, a minicomputer, a main frame computer, a microcomputer, a hand held device, and a telephonic device.

23. (Original) The system of Claim 20, wherein the processor is housed on a server.

24. (Original) The system of Claim 23, wherein the server is selected from a group consisting of a personal computer, a minicomputer, a microcomputer, and a main frame computer.
25. (Original) The system of Claim 23, wherein the server is coupled to a network.
26. (Original) The system of Claim 25, wherein the network is the Internet.
27. (Original) The system of Claim 25, wherein the server is coupled to the network via a coupling.
28. (Original) The system of Claim 27, wherein the coupling is selected from a group consisting of a wired connection, a wireless connection, and a fiberoptic connection.
29. (Original) The system of Claim 20, wherein the repository is housed on a server.
30. (Original) The system of Claim 29, wherein the server is coupled to a network.
31. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having control logic stored therein for causing a computer to run a service gap analysis, the control logic comprising:

first computer readable program code means identifying at least one service plan that is valid within the date range;

second computer readable program code means for determining the expected number of services within the date range ~~time period~~;

third computer readable program code means for identifying at least one encounter associated with the service plan occurring within the date range;

fourth computer readable program code means for comparing the expected number of services with the number of identified encounters for the service plan; [[and]]

fifth computer readable program code means for generating information indicating required services, missed services, missing services, and services met, attempted and made-up; and

sixth computer readable program code means for generating a result for the at least one identified service plan, the result indicating the shortfall and surplus of encounters for the at least one identified service plan.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

at the computer processor, electronically determining the expected duration of services within the date range by performing a calculation based on information included in the at least one service plan; and

at the computer processor, electronically determining the number and duration of identified encounters by performing a calculation based on information associated with the identified encounters.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, further comprising:

at the computer processor, electronically converting the expected number and duration of services and the number and duration of identified encounters to a common unit of measurement; and

at the computer processor, comparing the expected number and duration of services and the number and duration of identified encounters to determine the variance between them.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein electronically determining the expected number of services comprises:

at the computer processor, factoring in the number of available days for service based on a calendar and based on any identified gaps in service.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the calendar is a school calendar.

36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, further comprising:

means for electronically determining the expected duration of services within the date range by performing a calculation based on information included in the at least one service plan; and

means for electronically determining the number and duration of identified encounters by performing a calculation based on information associated with the identified encounters.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, further comprising:

means for electronically converting the expected number and duration of services and the number and duration of identified encounters to a common unit of measurement; and

means for comparing the expected number and duration of services and the number and duration of identified encounters to determine the variance between them.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein electronically determining the expected number of services comprises:

factoring in the number of available days for service based on a calendar and based on any identified gaps in service.

39. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 38, wherein the calendar is a school calendar.